GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
CYBER GRAMEEN IN ANDHRA PRADESH
YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the first Cyber Grameen was launched in Andhra Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take similar initiative for bringing Internet Services and Computers to all the villages in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The first Cyber Grameen has been launched at Venkatachalam Village in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh (AP) on 17th January, 2003 by Swarna Bharat Trust, based in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This Centre will provide state-of-the-art Tele- medicine, Tele-education, Banking and Insurance, Agricultural Trading, Digital Theatre and Video-conferencing facilities and services. This initiative aims at creating local entrepreneurs, generating employment, developing small scale industries (SSIs), agood agricultural economy, etc. The cost of establishing the Cyber Grameen was around Rs.30 lakhs.

(c) & d) No Sir. However, the Department has established 483 Community Information Centres (CICs) out of 487 Block Headquarters in the seven NE States and Sikkim. This is in addition to the NICNET, which provides Network backbone and communication links in all district centres of the country. The CIC benefits the publici n the Distance Learning programme, Web browsing, employment opportunities, public health awareness, disaster management and for interfacing with the Government.

(e): Does not arise.